What is claimed is:

- A tampon for feminine hygiene comprising an insertion end, a withdrawal end, a
 longitudinal axis, and an outer surface;
 said tampon being comprised of compressed fibrous material;
 wherein said outer surface of said tampon comprises a plurality of recessed portions;
 each of said recessed portions comprising a first width dimension x and a second width dimension
 y; wherein said first width dimension x is greater than said second width dimension y.
- 2. The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said insertion end comprises said first width dimension x.
- 3. The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said insertion end comprises said second width dimension y.
- 4. The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said recessed portions are arranged in a pattern.
- 5. The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said recessed portions are parallel with said longitudinal axis.
- 6. The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said recessed portions are spirally shaped.
- 7. The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein the fibrous material of said tampon has an essentially uniform density over a cross-section of the tampon.
- 8. The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein the fibrous material of said tampon has varying density over a cross-section of the tampon.
- 9. The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said tampon further comprises a core which is highly compressed.

- 10. The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said withdrawal end further comprises a withdrawal member.
- 11. The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said withdrawal end further comprises a finger indent.